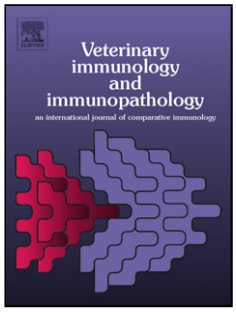

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The expression of NKG2D on porcine IEL and its possible relation to the adaptive intestinal immune system

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Highlights

- The number of intraepithelial lymphocytes is highly elevated shortly after weaning
- CD8β+ cytotoxic T cells are able to express the natural killer cell receptor NKG2D
- γδ T cells of the porcine gut, unlike those from blood, also express NKG2D
- Engagement of TCR/CD3 complex by an anti-CD3 mab reinforces the receptor expression

Abstract

The gastrointestinal tract contains a multitude of components which include intraepithelial lymphocytes (IEL). IELs have been reported to express a variety of surface receptors that enable cross talk among various cell populations. The purpose of the reported investigation was to determine which IEL populations express the natural killer cell receptor NKG2D which is an activating receptor that plays a role in cytolytic responses.